

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN JO 00465 040023Z

63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 AID-05 /051 W
----- 012740

O 032355Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9244

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 0465

PANAMA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CS

SUBJECT: WEEKEND PRESS ON ROGERS' VISIT

REF: SAN JOSE 0441 AND SAN JOSE 0443

1. NOTWITHSTANDING FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO'S CLARIFICATION TO THE PRESS FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, REGARDING THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS' VISIT TO COSTA RICA (SAN JOSE 0443) AND SUBSEQUENT STATEMENTS BY THE DEPARTMENT AND BY ROGERS HIMSELF, ALLEGED PRESS STATEMENTS BY BOTH FACIO AND ODUBER LED "LA NACION" TO PERSIST FEB 1 IN ITS THESIS THAT COSTA RICA WAS ASKED TO PLAY A MEDIATOR'S ROLE. FACIO WAS REPORTED SAYING "THE VISIT OF ROGERS WAS AN OFFICIAL VISIT. IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN OTHERWISE. THE CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM WERE INFORMAL, BUT VERY IMPORTANT. INFORMAL BECAUSE THERE WAS NO SIGNED JOINT COMMUNIQUE, NOR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, BUT FULL INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED OF WHAT TRANSPIRED." "LA NACION" ADDED THAT "FACIO AT NO POINT DENIED YESTERDAY'S (JANUARY 31) CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAN JO 00465 040023Z

STORIES...(CONCERNING COSTA RICA'S ROLE AS A LATIN AMERICAN

MEDIATOR)" IN AN EDITOR'S NOTE TO THE UPI STORY
OUT OF WASHINGTON CARRYING THE DEPARTMENT'S CLARIFICATION
OF ROGERS' PURPOSES IN COSTA RICA, "LA NACION" STATED THAT
BOTH ODUBER AND FACIO CONFIRMED THAT ROGERS CAME TO
COSTA RICA TO REQUEST THE GOCR TO ACT AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN
THE U.S. AND SOME LATIN COUNTRIES.

3. "LA REPUBLICA" ON FEBRUARY 3 PUT THE BLAME FOR THE
CONFUSION OVER THE ROGERS VISIT SQUARELY ON ODUBER.
IN ITS SIDE BAR EDITORIAL COLUMN THE PAPER ACCUSED THE PRESIDENT
OF PUTTING HIS FOOT IN HIS MOUTH FOR SAYING ONE THING TO THE
PRESS THAT HAD TO BE FOLLOWED UP WITH A DENIAL BY HIS
FOREIGN MINISTER. THE EDITORIALIST CRITICIZED ODUBER FOR
MAKING COSTA RICA APPEAR RIDICULOUS AND ALLOWED THAT IT WAS
MOST UNLIKELY IN THE FIRST PLACE THAT THE U.S. WOULD SEEK SUCH
A ROLE FOR THE GOCR WHICH HAS BEEN SO ADAMANTLY PROTECTIVE
OF ROBERT VESCO.

4. WEEKEND PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT ODUBER WAS
INFORMING OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STATE ABOUT
THE ROGERS VISIT AND THAT FACIO WOULD CALL IN CA
AMBASSADORS FOR THE SAME PURPOSES.

5. COMMENT. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT PRESIDENT ODUBER
HIMSELF INSPIRED THE LINE THAT GOCR HAD BEEN REQUESTED
TO PLAY A SPECIAL ROLE, AND THAT HE DID NOT COORDINATE
THIS WITH FACIO. IN SHORT AIRPORT MEETING ON
SATURDAY FACIO EMPHASIZED TO CHARGE THAT HE HAD TRIED
TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT. HE WAS CLEARLY PUT IN
AWKWARD SPOT, AND BOTH HE AND PRESIDENT HAVE BEEN
EMBARRASSED BY THE RESULTS. NEVERTHELESS, IN ITS OWN
TERMS THE VISIT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS, AND THIS PARTICULAR
FLURRY IS LIKELY TO PASS QUICKLY.
LANE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL, PRESS CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANJO00465
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750039-0644
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750179/aaaacron.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SAN JOSE 0441, 75 AND SAN JOSE 0443
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKEND PRESS ON ROGERS' VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, OTRA, CS, US, (FACIO SEGRED, GONZALO), (ROGERS, WILLIAM D), (ODUBER, DANIEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006